

St. Joseph County Department of Health

"Promoting physical and mental health and facilitating the prevention of disease, injury and disability for all St. Joseph County residents"

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St. Joseph County- As of today, the county's total number of confirmed cases is at 3,217. St. Joseph County is reporting 619 active cases (red as it relates to school re-opening guidance) and is averaging 47.1 cases per day (red) in the last seven days. The county's R0 estimate is 0.78 (yellow). Test positivity rate is 4.7% (as of 7/29/2020) (green).

COVID-19 Cases Update

Repeat testing for COVID 19 is **NOT** recommended if you meet **all** the following conditions:

- You tested positive for COVID-19
- More than 10 days have passed since you tested positive
- Your symptoms have resolved
- You have not had any fever for at least 24 hours
- You have not been taking any fever reducing medicines in the last 24 hours (e.g. Tylenol, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, etc)
- You were not hospitalized for COVID-19

If you meet **all** these conditions, you may return to work and usual activities without having to retest.

The problem with repeat testing is that such testing might detect *remnants* of virus which are no longer infectious.

For all COVID-19 testing sites in St. Joseph County, you can view an interactive map at https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2524.htm. Please be aware each site may have different criteria for testing.

The St. Joseph County Department of Health urges the continuation of the following actions:

- Practice extreme physical distancing.
 - Maintain at least 6ft between individuals.
 - Wearing a mask does NOT eliminate the need for physical distancing.
- Practice frequent and proper hand hygiene & cough etiquette.
 - Wash hands often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap & water; coughing and sneezing into your sleeve.
- Stay home if ill.
- Abide by the current Public Health Order, requiring face coverings when going into an <u>enclosed</u> public space or business <u>and</u> when 6 feet of physical distance cannot be maintained within the enclosed public space or business.

For more information on COVID-19, visit the Indiana State Department of Health at www.in.gov/isdh and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov. For general questions as it relates to COVID-19 infection, please call 2-1-1.

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